

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Status Report on Women Offenders

August 2002

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS STATUS REPORT ON WOMEN OFFENDERS

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I. Missouri Department of Corrections Historical Events – Women Offenders

In May 1842, the first female convict was sent to the Missouri State Penitentiary. Her name was Amelia Eddy from St. Louis County. She had been given a two-year sentence for Grand Larceny. Ms. Eddy did not have to complete her sentence as within a few days of her arrival, she was pardoned and released due to the inadequate facility. No real effort was made to arrange for the housing of women offenders.

Martha Casto, the second woman to be housed at the Missouri State Penitentiary, was not as lucky as Ms. Eddy. Upon her arrival, arrangements were made for her to live and work with a lessee and while there, she became pregnant. She was horribly mistreated by the lessee's wife and ran away. She was apprehended the next day and taken back to the Missouri State Penitentiary to an isolation cell. There she gave birth to the baby with the help of a fellow male convict. Both mother and baby remained at MSP until she was pardoned one year later.

Another woman sent to the Missouri State Penitentiary was placed in a cell with three male convicts. She wore a dress vividly dyed half-yellow and half-white that identified she was a convict. During the day she worked in the washhouse. While in her cell, the door was left unlocked for any prisoner or guard who wanted to "visit" her.

In 1887, the General Assembly recognized the need for a facility to house juvenile delinquent girls. The Governor accepted a \$5,000 donation from the Chillicothe Board of Trade in July 1887 and construction began in Chillicothe, Missouri. There were no cellblocks or dorms, but cottage style lodgings. The first girl was admitted in 1889 and by 1911, 700 girls had passed through the facility. Domestic skills were taught such as cooking, baking, laundry and sewing. The facility was nearly self sufficient with its own dairy, garden, laundry and bakery. In 1981, the Division of Youth Services phased out Training Schools and the General Assembly established the Chillicothe Correctional Center. Adult women first arrived at the Chillicothe Correctional Center in November 1981.

By 1890, approximately 60 women lived at the Missouri State Penitentiary. The women convicts were given striped dresses, with the stripes running lengthwise. They were, by this time, housed in their own dormitory and their work involved making undergarments and stitching shoes for the male convicts. There were a few with notorious reputations including Sadie Hayes (99-year sentence for killing a policeman with a straight

razor) and Anna Brown (49-year sentence for the cold-blooded murder of her father).

When a woman convict was ready for release she was given a “going out” costume, provided by the state. She was given 10 yards of muslin, made into underwear; a serge dress trimmed with black braid; a black cloth cape and a black hat.

In 1890, Mattie Scott was sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary. While at trial, Mattie had her four-month-old daughter with her and begged the judge to let her take the child with her to prison. The judge allowed Mattie Scott to take the child, which stumped many prison officials. The pair was given a cell in the women’s section of the prison. The administration noticed a difference in the other women convicts after being exposed to this child. They became much calmer and gentler and less likely to break the rules. Even the most vicious women softened perceptibly with a baby in their midst.

In May 1916, the Industrial Home for Negro Girls was opened in Tipton, Missouri. This facility was designed to hold 80 girls.

In July 1918, the entire female population at the Missouri State Penitentiary was allowed to spend the day at McClung Park. It was an afternoon of recreation, picnicking and dancing to the prison orchestra. No one tried to escape that day.

In January 1926, the women housed at the Missouri State Penitentiary were moved to Prison Farm #1 (the old Training Academy). A greenhouse was built to allow the winter cultivation of vegetables. The women were not to do factory work but were to be outdoors gardening and raising hogs and chickens. Women began canning preserves and fruit. At 6:45 a.m., the wake up bell would sound and the women would rise, make their beds and prepare for the day. Breakfast would be served and the workday would begin. The women were allowed to stroll outdoors for fresh air, read books from the prison library or listen to “Amos and Andy” on a donated radio. Saturday evenings were reserved for silent movies and on Sunday, they would dress up in fancy white dresses for church. There were no bars on the windows, and the only indication that it was a prison was the high wire fence that surrounded the grounds.

“Arsenic Annie” was housed at Prison Farm #1 and was known to have poisoned a number of husbands. Mentally ill, she would wail loudly all

day, clearly heard by the residents up and down Riverside Avenue in Jefferson City.

In 1960, the women were moved to Tipton and housed one or two to a dormitory style room. They were allowed a bath one time per day. At first, blacks and whites were kept in separate quarters but shortly after the move, were integrated successfully. Occasionally, prison officials would bring the male inmates from Renz farm, Church farm or Algoa for a coed dance.

After a horrific stabbing of the Superintendent at the Tipton Facility in 1975, some women were moved to the Renz Correctional Facility, making it the first coed correctional facility in Missouri's history. Other women were moved back to the Missouri State Penitentiary temporarily. Some stayed at Tipton for a short time, but later all women moved to the Renz Correctional Facility. Rules at Renz were strict and contact between the sexes was monitored. The women were housed in separate dormitories but attended classes and ate meals with the men.

In 1984, Prison PATCH began for women at the Renz Correctional Facility and Chillicothe. This program was started as a result of several interesting facts: more than half of the women in prison are mothers and their children are four times as likely to commit crimes not because of the exposure to crime but because of lack of contact with their parents. It was also noted that incarcerated mothers are less likely to become repeat offenders if they are able to maintain contact with their children. A trailer was set up in a homestyle setting for the offenders to bond with their children.

In 1993, a massive flood swept the grounds at the Renz Correctional Center. The women at the Renz Correctional Center then were moved to the Central Missouri Correctional Center (Church Farm) where they were housed in the Minimum Security Unit. They were housed there until the opening of the Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center in January 1998.

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME.....

Information taken from “Somewhere In Time” by Mark Schrieber

II. Missouri Department of Corrections Women's Issues Committee

MISSION STATEMENT

The Missouri Department of Corrections is committed to providing gender-responsive environments to women offenders under the jurisdiction of the Department. The Department of Corrections will offer a full continuum of gender specific services to empower the women to reach their full human potential. Through inter-divisional collaboration, we will work to prepare the women to lead productive and crime free lives.

VISION STATEMENT

Through effective and gender-responsive programs and services, we will substantially reduce the number of incarcerated women offenders. Persons with substance abuse and mental health disorders will receive gender-responsive and culturally competent treatment interventions in community settings. Women recidivism will be minimal and women will lead productive and peaceful lives, raising healthy children, obtaining gainful employment and making positive contributions to their safe communities.

III. Introduction

The rapidly growing women offender population is challenging the corrections professional as society has emphasized the male offender population regarding programming, behavior patterns and management issues. When rehabilitating women, corrections historically used a “one size fits all” concept. Recent research, in addition to the growing realization that women do have much different needs than men, has challenged the correctional focus on how we rehabilitate offenders.

At the end of 2000, there were 83,668 women incarcerated in United States prisons. During the last ten years, arrests rates for women increased 32 percent but imprisonment rates have increased 159 percent for women offenders. In the United States, drug offenses account for 50 percent of women in prison. During the decade following passage of mandatory drug laws in 1986, the number of incarcerated women for drug offenses rose by 88 percent. At the end of 2000, 64,000 plus women were in local jails, approximately 730,000 were on probation and 82,000 were on parole in the United States.

Thirty Year Overview of Missouri's Women Offender Population December 2001

	<i>INCARCERATED FEMALE OFFENDERS</i>		
	1978	1988	2001
FEMALE STATUS POPULATION	154	633	2113
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STATUS POPULATION	3.1%	5.1%	7.4%
TEN YEAR PERCENTAGE INCREASE	N/A	311%	234%

	<i>SUPERVISED FEMALE OFFENDERS</i>		
	1978	1988	2001
FEMALE STATUS POPULATION	1757	4927	13,471
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STATUS POPULATION	12.86%	16.94%	21.41%

TEN YEAR PERCENTAGE INCREASE	N/A	180%	173%
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National Profile of the Woman Offender

In 1991, the Bureau of Justice conducted a survey of women confined in United States prisons. Based on the data, the following is a profile of the average incarcerated woman:

- Over the age of 30
- High school graduate/holder of a GED
- Member of a racial or ethnic minority
- Unmarried
- Mother of children under the age of 18
- Grown up in home without both parents present
- Experienced physical or sexual abuse
- Unemployed at time of arrest
- Convicted of nonviolent offense
- Substance abuser

In addition, the literature on women offenders indicates the following:

- ✧ Crimes committed by women have not gotten more serious; instead, the system is “tougher” on all offenses, including those traditionally committed by women.
- ✧ Many women offenders come from backgrounds of poverty, neglect and abuse; they are likely to have histories of emotional problems linked with substance abuse and in general to have poor health.
- ✧ Women offenders are often single parents who have sole responsibility for their children. Nationally it is estimated an average 165,000 children are affected by their mother’s incarceration.
- ✧ Women offenders typically enter the system unskilled and with no significant work histories. This, along with a lack of life skills, such as interview skills, money management and the basic premises of being productive in the job market poses a serious recidivism risk.
- ✧ The largest psychological/emotional issue for incarcerated women is the concern for the care of their children.

IV. Missouri Women's Program Manager

As a result of legislation passed in 2001, a Women's Program Manager position has been established within the Missouri Department of Corrections.

The Department of Corrections is committed to providing gender-responsive environments to women offenders confined in the Division of Adult Institutions and under the supervision of the Board of Probation and Parole. The Women's Program Manager position within the Division of Offender Rehabilitative Services was established to ensure accountability, reliability and continuous improvement in meeting this commitment.

It is recognized that the majority of women who become involved in deviant behavior, including crime and drug abuse, do so by different pathways and for different reasons than men. Crimes committed by women are often a result of long histories of physical, social and psychological abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, and severe health problems. Our goal is to ensure gender-responsive programs are available to women offenders that provide health, mental health, self-esteem, parenting, academic education, vocational education, substance abuse and life skills assistance to enhance their opportunities for successful transition back into society. Inter-divisional collaborations, inter-agency collaboration and partnerships with community organizations are utilized in pursuit of this goal.

Without a doubt, women's needs are different than men's. While parity instructs us to provide equal access to programs and organizational support, the Women's Program Manager ensures we are tailoring them accordingly.

V. Missouri Women Offenders Strategic Plan

Due to the rapid increase of women coming under the umbrella of the Missouri Department of Corrections, an Agency Strategic Plan for Women Offenders has been written and adopted. A Women's Issues Committee has been established, chaired by the Women's Program Manager, to assist the Department of Corrections in providing gender-responsive services and programs to women offenders. The goal is to develop and maintain gender-responsive practices to help women develop knowledge and skills that will permit them to become self-reliant, self-sufficient and contributing members of their families and communities.

With state and national data indicating that 90 percent of women will be released and 80 percent are mothers, it is imperative we design rehabilitative practices that will assist in reducing the chances of their own children becoming involved in the system.

Priority Issues of the Agency Plan

- ✧ To address pertinent issues for revision of Department of Corrections approach to ensure gender-responsive practices:
 - Assessment tools
 - Sanction review
 - Best practices for managing and supervising women offenders across all divisions
 - Provide an environment that promotes maintaining family relationships
 - Development of vocational and job related skills
- ✧ To review and revise policies and procedures to address gender-specific areas.
- ✧ To develop and implement a comprehensive training program for staff working with women offenders.
 - Encourage atmosphere for positive self-development
 - Understanding the difference between men and women offenders
- ✧ To establish community partnerships and inter-agency collaborations to assist in providing gender-specific services to women offenders.

VI. Missouri's Women Offenders Profile

A. Incarcerated Women – October 2001

Age

<i>Age Category</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
17-20	59	2.8%
21-26	273	13.1%
26-30	332	16.0%
31-35	407	19.6%
36-40	446	21.5%
41-45	311	15.0%
46-50	127	6.1%
51+	122	5.9%
<i>Total</i>	2,077	100.0%

Marital Status

<i>Marital Status</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Divorced	697	33.6%
Married	437	21.0%
Never Married	860	41.4%
Unknown	1	0.0%
Widowed	82	3.9%
<i>Total</i>	2,077	100.0%

Dependents

<i>Dependents</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
0	451	21.7%
1	378	18.2%
2	469	22.6%
3	419	20.2%
4 or more	360	17.3%
<i>Total</i>	2,077	100.0%

Race and Ethnicity

	Hispanic	Other	N.K.	Total	% By Race
Asian	-	2	-	2	0.1%
African	-	732	8	740	35.6%
American	1	9	-	10	0.5%
Native	15	1,281	29	1,325	63.8%
American Caucasian					
Total	16	2,024	37	2,077	100.0%
% By Ethnicity	1%	97%	2%	100%	

Prior Criminal History

Prior Prison	Count	Percent
*None	1,662	80.0%
One	294	14.2%
Two	81	3.9%
Three +	40	1.9%
Total	2,077	100.0%

Prior Probation	Count	Percent
*None	1,075	51.8%
One	541	26.0%
Two	251	12.1%
Three +	210	10.1%
Total	2,077	100.0%

Prior Convictions	Count	Percent
*None	988	47.6%
One	481	23.2%
Two	81	3.9%
Three +	527	25.4%
Total	2,077	100.0%

Most Serious Offense

Ranking	Offense	Count	Percent
1	Dist Del Manuf Contr Sub	325	15.6%
2	Stealing	270	13.0%
3	Poss Controlled Substance	220	10.6%
4	Forgery	219	10.5%
5	Murder 2 nd Degree	121	5.8%
6	Burglary 2 nd Degree	71	3.4%
7	Robbery 2 nd Degree	60	2.9%
8	DWI/Alcohol	57	2.7%
9	Assault 2 nd Degree	56	2.7%
10	Passing a Bad Check	54	2.6%
11	Robbery 1 st Degree	51	2.5%
12	Stealing 3 rd Offense	45	2.2%
13	Aslt 1 st -Serious Physical Injury	33	1.6%
14	Murder 1 st Degree	32	1.5%
15	Voluntary Manslaughter	26	1.3%
16	Endanger Welfare Child	26	1.3%
17	Dist Cnt Sub Near School	26	1.3%
18	Assault 1 st Degree	18	0.9%
19	Burglary 1 st Degree	17	0.8%
20	Armed Criminal Action	17	0.8%
Total of Top Twenty		1,744	84.0%
Total		2,077	100%

Top 20 Sentencing Counties for Female Incarcerations

Ranking	Sentencing County	Count	Percent
1	St. Louis County	265	12.8%
2	Jackson	237	11.4%
3	St. Louis City	230	11.1%
4	Boone	84	4.0%
5	Greene	73	3.5%
6	Clay	71	3.4%
7	St. Charles	67	3.2%
8	Buchanan	61	2.9%
9	Jasper	42	2.0%
10	Pettis	40	1.9%
11	Cape Girardeau	39	1.9%
12	Butler	33	1.6%
12	Cole	33	1.6%
13	Lafayette	31	1.5%
14	Franklin	29	1.4%
14	Jefferson	29	1.4%
15	St. Francois	28	1.3%
16	New Madrid	25	1.2%
16	Saline	25	1.2%
17	Dunklin	23	1.1%
17	Laclede	23	1.1%
18	Camden	19	0.9%
19	Cass	19	0.9%
19	Pemiscot	19	0.9%
20	Platte	18	0.9%
Total of Top Twenty		1,563	75.3%
Total		2,077	100%

Current Education Score for Women Offenders
Percent of Education Score by Age Group
as of 10/15/01

Age Group	Grade 12	Grade 9-11	Grade 6-8	Grade 4-5	Grade 0-3	Other	Total
17-20	32.2%	20.3%	25.4%	3.4%	5.1%	13.6%	100%
21-25	52.0%	15.4%	14.7%	8.8%	5.5%	3.7%	100%
26-30	57.8%	10.2%	12.3%	9.0%	4.8%	5.7%	100%
31-35	57.7%	9.6%	10.8%	10.6%	7.9%	3.4%	100%
36-40	59.4%	10.5%	11.0%	7.8%	6.7%	4.5%	100%
41-45	54.7%	13.2%	14.1%	6.8%	7.4%	3.9%	100%
46-50	60.6%	12.6%	9.4%	8.7%	7.1%	1.6%	100%
51 and over	63.9%	9.0%	4.9%	14.8%	6.6%	0.8%	100%
Total	56.7%	11.7%	12.1%	8.9%	6.5%	4.1%	100%

The table above shows that 56.7% of all women offenders education score is grade 12 (GED) or above and that the older the women offenders were more likely to be high school graduates than younger women offenders.

Current Vocational Score for Women Offenders
Percent of Vocational Score by Age Group
as of 10/15/01

Age Group	Voc. Trained	Skilled	Semi-Skilled	Unskilled	No Skills	Other	Total
17-20	3.4%	1.7%	23.7%	42.4%	15.3%	13.6%	100%
21-25	7.3%	5.9%	39.6%	37.4%	6.2%	3.7%	100%
26-30	9.9%	10.2%	38.9%	21.7%	13.6%	5.7%	100%
30-35	13.0%	9.8%	35.1%	23.6%	15.0%	3.4%	100%
36-40	17.7%	15.5%	32.1%	17.0%	13.2%	4.5%	100%
41-45	17.0%	16.7%	29.9%	15.4%	17.0%	3.9%	100%
46-50	34.6%	9.4%	22.0%	13.4%	18.9%	1.6%	100%
51 and over	35.2%	12.3%	20.5%	10.7%	20.5%	0.8%	100%
Total	15.7%	11.5%	32.9%	21.6%	14.1%	4.1%	100%

The table above shows that 32.8% of women offenders are semi-skilled workers, 37.3% unskilled or no skills and 15.7% vocationally trained.

Current Working Skills Score for Women Offenders
Percent of Working Skills Score by Age Group
as of 10/15/01

Age Group	Stable Work	Stable Work	Sporadic	Poor Work	Very Poor	Other	Total
17-20	0.0%	5.1%	20.3%	32.2%	28.8%	13.6%	100%
21-25	1.8%	9.5%	33.0%	33.3%	18.7%	3.7%	100%
26-30	5.1%	14.2%	27.7%	26.2%	21.1%	5.7%	100%
30-35	8.1%	16.0%	26.5%	24.6%	21.4%	3.4%	100%
36-40	8.1%	18.8%	31.4%	19.7%	17.5%	4.5%	100%
41-45	12.9%	19.6%	29.6%	15.8%	18.3%	3.9%	100%
46-50	19.7%	17.3%	26.0%	21.3%	14.2%	1.6%	100%
51 and over	24.6%	18.9%	20.5%	16.4%	18.9%	0.8%	100%
Total	9.0%	15.9%	28.5%	23.2%	19.3%	4.1%	100%

The majority (28.5%) of female offenders currently have a sporadic unskilled work history, 23.2% required supervision on the job, and 25% had a stable work history and had either completed training or is undergoing training. Four percent of female offenders work history is unknown.

Current Mental Health Score for Women Offenders
Percent of Mental Health Score by Age Group
as of 10/15/01

Age Group	Emotionally	Min.	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Other	Total
17-20	6.8%	61.0%	16.9%	1.7%	0.0%	13.6%	100%
21-25	11.4%	64.5%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	100%
26-30	7.8%	59.3%	24.7%	2.4%	0.0%	5.7%	100%
31-35	5.9%	64.9%	23.6%	2.0%	0.2%	3.4%	100%
36-40	8.3%	64.1%	21.1%	1.8%	0.2%	4.5%	100%
41-45	8.7%	63.7%	23.2%	0.6%	0.0%	3.9%	100%
46-50	11.8%	61.4%	22.8%	1.6%	0.8%	1.6%	100%
51 and over	22.1%	55.7%	19.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	100%
Total	9.2%	62.7%	22.3%	1.4%	0.2%	4.1%	100%

According to the above table 62.7% of all female offenders currently have some mental health impairment, 1.4% have moderate mental health impairment and less than one percent are severely impaired. Nine percent are emotionally stable and 4% mental health status is unknown.

Sentencing and Time Served

<i>Sentence Length</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Percent</i>
1 to 3 years	315	15.2%
4 to 5 years	692	33.3%
6 to 7 years	356	17.1%
8 to 15 years	490	23.6%
16 to 29 years	105	5.1%
30+ years	45	2.2%
Interstate	2	0.1%
Unkown	72	3.5%
<i>Total</i>	2,077	100%

B. Women Under Community Supervision – October 2001

<i>Age</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Under 17	3	0.02%
17-20	782	5.85%
21-25	2,520	18.87%
26-30	2,187	16.37%
31-35	2,320	17.37%
36-40	2,393	17.92%
41-45	1,725	12.91%
46-50	840	6.29%
51+	587	4.39%
<i>Total</i>	13,357	100%

<i>Marital</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Divorced	3,681	27.56%
Married	2,993	22.41%
Never Married	4,952	37.07%
Widowed	265	1.98%
Unknown	1,466	10.98%
<i>Total</i>	13,357	100%

Race and Ethnicity

Race	Hispanic Number %	Non-Hispanic Number %	Unknown Number %	Total Number %
Asian	1	21	6	28
African-	3.6%	75.0%	21.4%	100%
American	3	2,618	839	3,460
Nat. American	0.1%	75.7%	5	100%
Caucasian	1	31	13.5%	37
Unknown	2.7%	83.8%	100%	100%
	0.9%	7,571	2,165	9,822
	2	77.1%	22.0%	100%
	20.0%	3	5	10
		30.0%	50.0%	100%
Total	93	10,244	3,020	13,357
	.7%	76.7%	22.6%	100%

Dependents

Number of Dependents	Offenders Number Percent
0	4,612
1	35%
2	2,532
3	19%
4 or more	2,902
	22%
	1,924
	14%
	1,387
	10%
Total	13,357
	100%

Prior Criminal History

Prior Probations	Offender	
	Number	Percent
*None	10,414	78.0%
One	1,817	13.6%
Two	694	5.2%
Three +	432	3.2%
Total	13,357	100.0%

Prior Prison Sentences	Offender	
	Number	Percent
*None	12,836	96.10%
One	392	2.93%
Two	75	0.56%
Three +	54	0.40%
Total	13,357	100.0%

Prior Departmental History	Offender	
	Number	Percent
No DOC History	10,306	77.2%
Prison & Probation	413	3.1%
Prison No Probation	108	0.8%
Probation No Prison	2,530	18.9%
Total	13,357	100.0%

Top 20 Sentencing Counties for Female Incarcerations

Ranking	Sentencing County	Count	Percent
1	St. Louis County	1,654	12.4%
2	Jackson	1,355	10.1%
3	St. Louis City	814	6.1%
4	St. Charles	627	4.7%
5	Boone	484	3.6%
6	Greene	388	2.9%
7	Jasper	288	2.2%
8	Jefferson	287	2.1%
9	Cape Girardeau	250	1.9%
10	Buchanan	234	1.8%
11	Clay	229	1.7%
12	Franklin	228	1.7%
13	Cole	206	1.5%
14	St. Francois	201	1.5%
15	Scott	177	1.3%
16	Dunklin	175	1.3%
17	Camden	167	1.3%
18	Saline	148	1.1%
19	Cass	142	1.1%
20	Pemiscot	130	1.0%
Total & Percent of Cases		8,184	61.3%

Type of Case

Type	Offender	
	Number	Percent
Board	1,474	11.0%
Court	11,358	85.0%
Interstate	525	3.9%
Total	13,357	100.0%

Employment

Employment	Offender	
	Number	Percent
Full Time	4,306	33.21%
Part-Time	5,291	40.81%
Unemployed	3,369	25.98%
Total	12,966	100.0%

Social Problems

Violation	Offender	
	Number	Percent
No Problem	1,689	13%
Prob No Plan	5,379	41%
Prob Plan	5,898	45%
Total	12,966	100.0%

Technical Violations

Violation	Offender	
	Number	Percent
None Past 6 Months	9,487	73.2%
Violation Past 6 Months	922	7.1%
Violation Past 3 Months	2,557	19.7%
Total	12,966	100.0%

Legal

Legal	Offender	
	Number	Percent
No Arrests Last 3 Months	11,612	89.6%
1 Arrest last 3 Mo. No Conviction	358	2.8%
2+ Arrests, Conviction or Pending Charge	996	7.7%
Total	12,966	100.0%

Substance Abuse

Abuse	Offender	
	Number	Percent
None in 6 months	11,612	89.56%
In Past 4-6 Months	358	2.76%
In Last 3 Months	996	7.68%
Total	12,966	100.0%

VII. Women's Facilities

As of July 2002, the Missouri Department of Corrections currently operates for women offenders:

- ✧ 2 major institutions including a youthful offender unit
- ✧ 2 community release centers
- ✧ 3 residential facilities

Location of Women's Facilities in Missouri

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Total Capacity</i>	<i>Population 7/15/02</i>
Women's Eastern Reception Diagnostic Correctional Center	Vandalia, MO	1588	1639
Chillicothe Correctional Center	Chillicothe, MO	525	524
Kansas City Community Release Center	Kansas City, MO	50	46
St. Louis Community Release Center	St. Louis, MO	50	53
Metropolitan Employment	St. Louis, MO	25	26
Kansas City Community Center	Kansas City, MO	15	13
Reality House	Columbia, MO	6	7

A. Correctional Institutions

✧ Women's Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WERDCC):

WERDCC was opened in January 1998 after the flood in 1993 forced the women offenders out of the Renz Correctional Center. This facility is a 1588 bed institution for women. The complex covers approximately 47 acres of the 117 acre site and is located approximately 90 miles west of St. Louis, Missouri.

Women's Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center

1101 East Highway 54

Vandalia, Missouri 63382

(573) 594-6686

Superintendent: Patricia Cornell

This institution is the reception and diagnostic center for all women sentenced or returned to the Department of Corrections. During an approximate 30-day stay in reception and orientation, the women are assessed by a caseworker in a variety of areas including educational, vocational, medical, and mental health.

This assessment would indicate a custody/security level and determine permanent placement at either CCC or WERDCC.

There are four general population housing units, one reception and orientation unit, one administrative segregation/mental health unit, one unit designated for those women referred to substance abuse treatment, an infirmary, and a unit for juveniles that have been tried and convicted as an adult.

*As of FY01, it costs \$36.13 per day to house a woman at WERDCC.

✧ Chillicothe Correctional Center (CCC):

Chillicothe Correctional Center was built in July 1887 and was originally named the State Industrial Home for Girls. This facility became an institution for adult women in 1981 and currently is a 525 bed institution. The institution is situated on 69 acres of land with approximately 20 acres located inside the fenced security perimeter. This institution is located in Chillicothe, Missouri, approximately 50 miles North and 40 miles East of Kansas City, Missouri.

Chillicothe Correctional Center
1500 Third Street
Chillicothe, Missouri 64601
(660) 646-4032
Superintendent: Jennifer Miller

This institution houses all general population offenders, once processed and transferred from WERDCC. There are four housing units for general population offenders. A portion of Housing Unit 3 is designated as an honor dorm and a portion of Housing Unit 1 contains an 18 bed segregation unit.

*As of FY01, it costs \$36.62 per day to house a woman at CCC.

Programs and Services Offered at Correctional Institutions

Mental Health

The Women's Social Rehabilitation Unit (WSRU) is located at WERDCC. This unit is designed to provide security, medication and counseling services required to maintain the optimum level of institutional and mental health adjustment possible for chronically mentally ill offenders. This unit is not intended to provide acute psychiatric care or intermediate hospital care.

The mental health unit at WERDCC averages 972 contacts per month. Programs provided to those suffering with mental health issues include anger management, art therapy, life skills, communication skills, music, trauma, and emotional processing.

The mental health staffing pattern at WERDCC is as follows:

- ✧ Chief of Mental Health Services/Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- ✧ Psychiatric Registered Nurse
- ✧ Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- ✧ Licensed Professional Counselor
- ✧ Counselor in Training
- ✧ Behavioral Technologist
- ✧ Activity Therapist
- ✧ 2 part-time Psychiatrists

Criteria for admission to the WSRU is designed to meet the needs of offenders who cannot adequately function in the general population due

to their mental health issues. Criteria for placement must include at least one of the following:

- ✧ Level 4 mental health score (psychologists may review offenders with Level 3 or less scores if other criteria are met.)
- ✧ Chronic psychological problems that lead to significant difficulty functioning in general population, including such difficulties as victimization due to poor coping abilities, poor adherence to rules due to the inability to understand rules and recurring psychotic symptoms.
- ✧ Noncompliance with, or instability on, psychotropic medication.
- ✧ Mental retardation where the above criteria are met.

There are approximately 350 contacts per month with the women offenders at CCC. This includes psychiatric as well as psychotherapeutic services. Besides providing outpatient therapy, a psychiatric chronic care clinic exists to track offenders who are a mental health level 3 and above. CCC currently offers two groups: Women's Health Issues which addresses diet, exercise, preventative medicine, medication compliance, hygiene, basic first aid, menopause and general care; Coping with Anxiety and Worry group looks at the education of anxiety reduction techniques and the application of those techniques. CCC offers ongoing training for offenders in the area of suicide prevention. In addition, staff is trained in the area of suicide prevention and women's health issues.

The Mental Health department's staffing pattern at Chillicothe Correctional Center consists of the following:

- ✧ Chief of Mental Health Services/Licensed Psychologist
- ✧ Licensed Professional Counselor
- ✧ Psychiatric Registered Nurse
- ✧ Mental Health Clerk
- ✧ Consulting Psychiatrist (1 day a week)

An organized and structured referral process exists to facilitate psychological services while incarcerated. At the other end of the spectrum, a thorough aftercare system exists to assist offenders leaving the correctional facility.

For those offenders whose mental health needs increase to a level which requires intensive inpatient treatment, the Biggs Corrections Treatment Unit in Fulton, Missouri is available. Women with these needs are transferred from CCC or WERDCC and housed at this facility. Once

stabilized and able to be managed at an institution, women are returned to their designated facility with a thorough assessment and treatment plan.

The Mental Health services in the Missouri Department of Corrections are being administered by an outside entity, Behavioral Health Concepts, Inc. There are plans to enhance the number of programs offered to the offender population.

Medical

Medical services for both CCC and WERDCC are provided by a contracted agency, Correctional Medical Services. Comprehensive medical services are available on a 24-hour a day, seven days per week basis for all women offenders from the time they enter into the Department's custody at WERDCC. The initial physical examination is conducted by both nursing and physician staff and will include a Pap smear, sexually transmitted disease testing, HIV testing, and a Tuberculosis test. A full dental examination is performed that includes a full mouth panorex x-ray. Other tests and diagnostic procedures may be completed, depending upon the offender's medical status. The WERDCC is regularly staffed with LPN's, RN's, physicians, dentists, a nurse practitioner, optometrist, radiology technician, phlebotomist, and an OB/GYN specialist. Extensive use is made of an in-house Transitional Care Unit and community-based hospitals, clinics, and specialists to handle more complex diagnostics and treatment of certain conditions.

All women offenders are afforded and urged to take advantage of routine mammograms. A certified mammography unit and technician are located in the medical unit.

On any given month, an average of 26 pregnant offenders are cared for at WERDCC. Prenatal care provided by in-house staff is supplemented by regular visits with an OB/GYN physician. An average of four offender deliveries occur each month at local hospitals.

The Chillicothe Correctional Center is similarly staffed with physicians, dentists, nurses, and specialists. Typically, offenders who have serious problems or are pregnant are not assigned to this smaller institution. Nevertheless, medical staff is on duty 24-hours a day, seven days per week with a physician on-call at all times after hours.

Both institutions are fully accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, an independent accrediting organization.

Women offenders at both sites are provided a variety of prevention services, e.g., annual or tri-annual physicals (depending upon age), chronic care clinics for those who have on-going conditions requiring regularly scheduled assessment and/or treatment, and annual health fairs to increase health awareness and encourage healthy lifestyle choices. Medical staff routinely attend offender council meetings in order to respond to health care issues or concerns. A Clinical Executive Committee comprised of medical and mental health nurses, psychologists, counselors, and physicians meet regularly to coordinate the more complex treatment plans for offenders who have both somatic and psychiatric conditions.

Women offenders are provided comprehensive medical services during incarceration. It is the Department's goal to provide the community standard of care during incarceration, to promote healthy lifestyle choices, and to provide necessary services in a manner that is human and preserves patient health and personal dignity.

Substance Abuse Programs

Housing Unit 1, a 240-bed unit, has been designated as the substance abuse treatment center at WERDCC. The substance abuse services are provided contractually by the Gateway Foundation. Staff from the Divisions of Adult Institutions, Offender Rehabilitative Services and the Board of Probation and Parole assist in the management and daily operation of this unit. Offenders must be sentenced by the court or referred by the parole board to one of the four treatment programs in this unit. The treatment programs that currently exist are as follows:

- ✧ 120-day Program: Offenders in this program are sentenced by the court pursuant to Section 217.385 or 559.115 RSMo. A report is generated at approximately 90 days to the judge to advise the offender's progress while in treatment. The judge retains jurisdiction until the 120th day at which time the offender is released to the community or remains in the Division of Adult Institutions pending a parole hearing.
- ✧ 84-day Program: This program is for those women being returned to the Department of Corrections as a result of parole violations. They are given an opportunity at treatment and if successful, they are continued on parole supervision to the community. This program is also utilized by the Parole Board at the time of a parole hearing. The offender will receive treatment and will be released upon successful completion of the program.

- ✧ Long Term Drug Program (Court Ordered): Women receive treatment in this program after being sentenced pursuant to Section 217.362 RSMo. The offender can stay in treatment for up to two years with the sentencing judge maintaining jurisdiction and rendering a final decision for release based on progress reports submitted by program staff.
- ✧ Long Term Drug Program (Board Ordered): Women receive treatment in this program after being referred by the Board of Probation and Parole. This program is one year in length and the offender will be considered for release upon successful completion of the program.
- ✧ 180-day Offenders Under Treatment Program (OUT): This is a six month program which is also Parole Board referred and is stipulated in lieu of the offender having a parole board hearing. If certain criteria are met, the offender will receive treatment and be considered for release upon successful completion of the program.

Gateway staff is trained in gender-specific treatment at WERDCC. They rely on the premise of self-help, mutual self-help and women taking responsibility for promoting change in themselves. The treatment involves group therapy, individual-counseling sessions, education seminars, privileges and learning experiences, all relative to substance abuse. The offenders also participate in GED classes, restorative justice activities, work release, victim impact classes, employability/life skills, PATCH and Girl Scouts Beyond Bars. There is a wing within the treatment center allocated for women with co-occurring diagnosis of substance abuse and mental illness or other special needs.

Both Chillicothe and Women's Eastern provide a 40 hour substance abuse intervention and education program which assists in raising a woman's awareness of their addictions, as they relate to denial, anger, interpersonal relationships, self-concepts, recovery, and relapse prevention. Each institution has a substance abuse counselor on site. Alcoholic's Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and the 12-step program are also offered and meet weekly under the guidance of staff or a volunteer.

Vocational/Special Education/Academic

Vocational Education is a critical piece in reducing the rates of recidivism. Numerous opportunities in the area of vocational education are available

to women while they are incarcerated. Applicants must meet specific criteria and may take one program during their incarceration.

- ✧ Building Trades (WERDCC): Plumbing procedure and repairs, redecorating with paint, refinishing floors, door repairs, exterior carpentry repairs, cement and tile work, heating system maintenance, interior carpentry repairs, plaster and dry-wall, redecorating with wall coverings, fasteners and other hardware, window repairs, ordering lumber and building materials, basic electrical repair and insulation.
- ✧ Cosmetology (CCC/WERDCC): Shampooing of all kinds, hair coloring, bleaches and rinses, hair cutting and shaping, hair setting, pin curls, fingerwaves and thermal curling, comb outs and hair styling techniques, scalp treatment and diseases, permanent waving and relaxing, facials, eyebrows and arches, manicuring, hand and arm massage, treatment of nails, cosmetic chemistry, salesmanship and shop management, sanitation and sterilization, anatomy and State law.
- ✧ A+ Computer Repair (Federal Grant) (CCC/WERDCC): This class is designed to prepare students to successfully take the A+ Certification exam. A+ Certification is internationally recognized as a validation of technical knowledge and skills required for an entry-level technician. Program includes Introduction to Computer Repair, Identifying Hardware Components, System Construction, Operating Systems – DOS, Operating Systems – Windows 95/98/NT, Troubleshooting the System, Peripheral Repair and Network.
- ✧ Employability Skills/Life Skills (CCC/WERDCC): Modules include Effective Communication, Conflict Resolution, Diversity, Balanced Living Through Goal Setting, Decisive Solutions to Challenging Problems, Benefits of Working in a Free Society, Career Exploration, Job Application Protocol, Resumes and Cover Letters, Practical Interviewing Techniques, Job Retention Strategies, Lenses of Family Dynamics, Parenting, Money Matters, Choices for Health Lifestyles, Offender Resources and Pre-Release Guide.
- ✧ Commercial Sewing (CCC/WERDCC): Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Machines, Operation of a Button Machine, Round and Square Cushion Construction, Layout and Sewing Diamond and Straight Pleated Panels, Basic Material Selection and Measurement for Upholstery, Setting a Zipper, Basic Covering Procedures, Furniture Decking, Commercial Sewing for Business Procedures and Working with Fabrics for Apparel.

- ✧ Industrial Technology (WERDCC): Advanced Electronics, Advanced CAD, Advanced Structural Engineering, Computer Technology and Application, Electronics Control Systems, Electronics, Fluid Power, Hydraulics, Pneumatics, Reduce, Recycle, Robotics and Small Gas Engines.
- ✧ Culinary Arts (CCC): Food service industry; Servsafe; Tools and Equipment; Cooking methods and techniques; Recipes, Menus and Preparation; Salads and Dressings; Soups, Stocks, and Sauces; Meats; Fish and Shellfish; Starches; Food Presentation; Baking Desserts; Tableside Services and Complete Meal Preparation.
- ✧ Business, Customer Service and Medical Office (CCC): Professional Development, Keyboarding, Business Record Keeping, Business Communications, Data Entry, Operating Systems, Medical Office Assistant.

Effective January, 2001, per Statute 217.690.10 RSMo, the Parole Board cannot grant parole unless the offender has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent, or it is determined the offender has made an honest, good-faith effort to obtain such. Therefore, GED classes are offered at WERDCC and CCC and are mandatory for those offenders who do not possess such. The GED classes are offered Monday-Thursday three sessions per day. The testing procedure is done through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the same criteria is established as those in the community.

Additional education programs offered are Special Education, Title I Services and the Youthful Offender Program, all offered at WERDCC. The Youthful Offender Program is offered through a federal grant and gives women an opportunity to attend college through the Mineral Area Junior College. If an offender is released prior to completion, money can be provided to further her education when released.

Religious Services

The offenders may take advantage of religious services. The chapels at WERDCC and CCC represent all faiths. The religious programming is diverse and represents eight faith groups to include, but not limited to, Protestant, Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, Jewish, Muslim, Moorish Science Temple of America, Native American and WICCA. The religious programs are planned, coordinated and supervised by a staff Chaplain. The

Chaplain has a support staff consisting of auxiliary Chaplains, Volunteers in Corrections (VIC's), and offenders are utilized for basic office functions. Worship services, religious education (bible studies, etc.), seminars, weekend special events, individual counseling, marriage counseling, religious group meetings, spiritual library, and other services are offered on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.

Caring Friends is an interfaith group of offenders at CCC committed to intensive training in counseling and caring skills. The Chaplain provides training. These offenders offer themselves as a resource to the Chaplain and the staff community as a supportive and caring presence for offenders who are in a crisis or are struggling. They are readily available to the offenders in the housing units as needed.

Other Programs

- ✧ AA/NA Meetings (WERDCC/CCC) – Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous hold weekly and bi-weekly meetings for the offenders who wish to attend. It is a voluntary meeting for all offenders. There is also a Big Book study group held weekly for those wanting to gain more insight into the Alcoholics Anonymous 12-step program.
- ✧ Addicts Victorious (WERDCC) – This is a spiritual support group held bi-weekly to encourage offenders to deal with issues relating to alcohol abuse.
- ✧ Anger Management (CCC) – This class is focused toward identifying anger and its triggers, understanding anger, and developing healthy alternatives for dealing with anger. The class is comprised of general population offenders attending on a voluntary basis as well as staff referrals.
- ✧ B.L.A.S.T. (CCC/WERDCC) – This is a wellness program developed to educate offenders on healthy eating and living. It consists of dietary classes and aerobic classes with charts to help them see the progress they are making in the program.
- ✧ Cage Your Rage (WERDCC) – An anger management course which provides offenders with strategies on dealing with anger other than violence and acting out. It is taught by staff utilizing videotapes and books.

- ✧ Champs Dog Assistance Program (WERDCC)– This program is designed to train dogs to become assistant dogs to physically challenged citizens. The facility works in collaboration with Champs, Inc. in St. Louis to screen participating offenders and dogs. They train the dogs for approximately 9 months to 1 year prior to the last phase of training and before the dog being placed with a citizen.
- ✧ Corrective Thinking Training (CCC) – This program focuses on the thinking that shapes behavior. Participants learn to identify and interpret “barriers” in thinking before they erupt into harmful behavior.
- ✧ Domestic Violence Support Group (WERDCC) – This is a support group held once a month for all offenders who have been victims of any type of domestic violence.
- ✧ Foster Grandparent Program (WERDCC) – Outside volunteers 60 years or older may participate in this program. Target population are those offenders that are 21 years or younger. The foster grandparent will assist the offenders by mentoring in times of need.
- ✧ Girl Scouts Beyond Bars (WERDCC) - This program is open to offenders who are from the Greater St. Louis area. The offender signs her daughter(s) up for the Girl Scout troop at the institution. The GSA coordinator contacts the family and makes arrangements for the girl to attend the meetings. One week the troop meets in St. Louis and the next week they meet at the institution with their mothers. The offender moms work with their daughters to complete projects and earn badges. The meetings are held in the activity area of the visiting room. Offenders must be 90 days violation free to participate.
- ✧ Longtimer’s (WERDCC) – This organization raises money through an ongoing fundraiser and one annual fundraiser. This money is then donated to outside charities such as women’s shelters, American Cancer Society, etc. It is also used to buy gifts for the offender population twice a year.
- ✧ Making Peace With Your Past (WERDCC) – This course leads offenders through a 13-week study of the dynamics of growing up in a family in which the presence of an emotionally needy family member disrupted the development of healthy behaviors and relationships. This course is taught by a volunteer using workbooks and group discussion.

- ✧ Missouri Insiders (CCC) – This is an organization open to the general population with a member sponsorship. The main objective is to promote positive morale in the institutional setting. Annual fund raising allows this organization to provide extras for the offender population during the holidays and to make donations to community activities or charities.
- ✧ Missouri Sex Offender Program (MoSOP) (WERDCC) – This program is designed to ensure individuals convicted of sexual offenses understand how their perceptions and decisions led to their sexual offenses, encourage them to assume responsibility for and promote change in their behavior, and teach alternative coping skills and relapse prevention techniques to avoid continued criminal sexual behavior upon release.
- ✧ Mothers of Incarcerated Children (WERDCC) – Staff from Mothers and Children Together, Division of Family Services and law students from St. Louis University meet twice per month to share with women the legal process regarding their children when they enter into the criminal justice system. They share with the offenders ways they can enhance and maintain their parental responsibilities while incarcerated.
- ✧ Moving Beyond Your Past (WERDCC) – This course is a continuation of Making Peace With Your Past as it helps the offender learn to change behaviors, which have developed from childhood experiences. It is a 13-week course taught by a volunteer and utilizes workbooks and group discussion.
- ✧ Nutrition Class (WERDCC) – This class is presented by the University of Missouri – Extension Center. Offenders are taught how to prepare meals on a strict budget and also how to cook healthier meals for their families. The program is a 12-week course meeting one day per week. Offenders prepare a meal one week and participate in an exercise session the next week. Offenders must be 90 days violation free to attend this class.
- ✧ Offender Suicide Observation Assistant (CCC) – This is a volunteer program trained by the mental health staff to identify suicidal ideations in the reception and orientation unit, administrative segregation unit and with general population offenders.
- ✧ Operation Fix-Up (CCC) - Offenders volunteer their services in repairing and painting their cells and common areas. This promotes

institutional community pride and accomplishment. Participants receive training and program participation credit as an incentive.

- ✧ Parenting (CCC) – Series of videos, workbooks, and discussion to enhance parenting skills and is required to participate in the PATCH program. Instruction is provided by the PATCH volunteer.
- ✧ Parents as Teachers (WERDCC) – This is an on-going class that meets several times a week. It offers projects for offenders to complete and send home to their children such as designing and coloring a pillowcase. A topic lesson is taught and discussed each session. Homework from the previous class must be completed before the offender is allowed to work on a project. This class is taught by a volunteer and utilizes projects and group discussion.
- ✧ PATCH Program (CCC/WERDCC) – PATCH is an organization that assists offenders and their families maintain the mother/child bond. It is available for all offenders regardless of the location of their family. PATCH will arrange transportation for the family as well as lodging if traveling a great distance. The offender is allowed to visit with their children in a designated area where she can prepare a meal for her children in a home-style setting. The visit is supervised by a Volunteer in Corrections (VIC). Offenders must be 90 days violation free to apply for a PATCH visit. Offenders are also required to complete the PATCH parenting course before a visit will be scheduled.
- ✧ Quilting Program (CCC/WERDCC) -- This program was implemented to promote offender volunteer participation in producing quilts that are donated to community betterment organizations for fund raising purposes or directly to victims of crime. Materials are donated from the community to complete the project. This program is part of the Restorative Justice initiative.
- ✧ Rational Emotive Therapy (WERDCC) – This is a 9-week course dealing with shame, self-esteem, guilt, perfectionism, anxiety and worry, depression, anger and understanding. It is taught by a volunteer using workbooks and videotapes.
- ✧ Realistic Encounters About Life in Prison (R.E.A. L.) (CCC) – This program is open to offenders with a sentence of 15 years or more. The mission is to provide support to all women through ongoing programs and to improve the community inside the institution and communities

from which offenders came. The group serves as a mentor through the Reception and Orientation process.

- ✧ REAL-Outreach (CCC) – This is a youth awareness program and is open to general population offenders. The main objective is to present the reality of prison life through tours, education, and life histories as a deterrent to crime and to identify antisocial behavior.
- ✧ Restorative Justice Program (CCC/WERDCC) – This program is open to all offenders. It is designed to provide an opportunity for offenders to express remorse and reparation during incarceration through established activities. These activities include gardening for pantries, quilting for women and children's shelters, sewing teddy bears for police and sheriff's departments, and sewing beanbags for school systems as teacher and physical therapy aids.
- ✧ Shelter From the Storm (WERDCC) – This course is designed to help offenders who have been victims of sexual abuse. The course is taught by a volunteer and utilizes workbooks and group discussion. It is a 13-week course open to all offenders.
- ✧ Story Link (WERDCC) – This program is designed to help strengthen the bond between the offender mother and her children. The offender selects a book for her child and writes a short message in it to personalize it for her child. She then accompanies a volunteer and reads the book onto a cassette tape and can record a personal message for her child. The tape and book are then sent to the child who listens to his/her mother read the book to them. Offenders must be 90 days violation free for this program.
- ✧ Untangling Relationships (WERDCC) – This course is designed to help offenders who find themselves in dysfunctional relationships. It is a 13-week course that helps offenders understand the characteristics of a healthy relationship. The course is taught by a volunteer and utilizes workbooks and group discussion.
- ✧ Victim's Impact Class (CCC/WERDCC) – This class is designed to increase offenders' awareness of the impact of criminal offenses on the lives of victims and on the lives of victims families. This class is required for all offenders. It is taught for a total of 20 hours over a 3 full day period. The class is given to 20 offenders per session.

- ✧ Work Release Program (CCC/WERDCC) – This program has two levels, supervised and unsupervised. The supervised work release program allows the assigned offenders to work for city, county, and state departments (Parks and Recreation, Housing Authority, Department of Transportation, etc.). They provide labor for tasks that would not normally be completed by regular employees. This program is designed to provide skills in tree trimming, brush removal, painting, etc. The unsupervised work release program allows the assigned offenders to work for privately owned businesses at minimum wage or more to increase their skill level. Offenders from WERDCC have been contracted with a local nursing home to work in laundry, housekeeping, food service, and as nursing staff. Offenders meeting specific criteria may earn certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant within this program. Offenders from CCC work for the Highway Department for roadside cleanup, roadside park maintenance, and planting of shrubs.
- ✧ Writers Club (WERDCC) – This class is held once a month as a positive way for offenders to develop their writing creativity. This is instructed by a published author.
- ✧ YAG (Youth Awareness Group) (WERDCC) – This organization dedicates its time to helping youth realize the consequences of their actions. They provide tours and group sessions for schools, Divisions of Family and Youth Services, Probation and Parole, and juvenile centers. They also raise money through an on-going fundraiser and one annual fundraiser. This money is donated to various groups such as children's shelters, schools, and daycare's.

B. Community Release Centers

There are two community release centers operated by the Board of Probation and Parole. These facilities are utilized as a transition to the community, a sanction when parole conditions are violated and as an alternative to incarceration.

- ✧ Kansas City Community Release Center (KCCRC):

KCCRC opened in May 1978 and initially housed only male offenders. In November 1982, the facility expanded to house women as well. KCCRC has a capacity of 300 offenders. There are six housing units that hold approximately 50 offenders each, with one housing unit

being designated solely for women. This facility offers a work release program and substance abuse program. The maximum stay is 120 days in length. An opportunity to be released with 45 days may occur if the offender is violation free, maintains 30 days of continuous employment, is current on all maintenance fees and has an approved home plan. Gender-responsive programming began in February 2002 at this facility.

Kansas City Community Release Center
651 Mulberry Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64101
(816)842-7467
Superintendent: Kimberly Jones

The KCCRC Substance Abuse Program is a Department of Mental Health Certified Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program. It is provided to offer offenders information about the contribution of alcohol/drug problems to life difficulties, and for those who may be engaging in criminal behavior due to substance abuse. There are three levels to the treatment provided at KCCRC.

The objectives of each level are as follows:

Level I:

- ✧ Develops awareness of the impact of substance abuse in their life
- ✧ Develops the motivation for recovery and pro-social living
- ✧ Absence of alcohol/drug use

Level II:

- ✧ Family/Significant Other involvement
- ✧ Absence of alcohol/drug use
- ✧ Develops a substance-free support group within the community
- ✧ Develops a relapse prevention plan

Level III:

- ✧ Strengthen the commitment of an active program of recovery
- ✧ Absence of alcohol/drug use
- ✧ Identify and utilize effective relapse prevention techniques

This treatment includes group and individual counseling, group education, meetings with family/significant others and family counseling.

The KCCRC Work Release Program is led by a Workforce Development Facilitator. A 2 ½ day training is provided to help offenders develop job skills and find gainful employment. Offenders work for various employers throughout the Kansas City, Missouri area but are not allowed to work where alcohol is the primary source of revenue, in adult entertainment venues or as a temporary employee through a temporary agency. Employed offenders pay federal, state, and local taxes through payroll deductions. The women are required to reimburse the state for their room and board at KCCRC at a rate of ¼ of their gross salary. Another ¼ of the salary is placed in a mandatory savings account and is made available to them upon release from the facility.

The offenders must work to remain at the facility and adhere to a schedule of verified activities. Failure to abide by these restrictions can result in a return to incarceration.

The offenders can be granted an Extended Limits of Confinement while at KCCRC. This provides the woman an opportunity to visit family, children and friends. These visits are monitored by the KCCRC staff and must be at an approved location. Adherence to the rules and regulations of parole as well as the law is required or a warrant could be issued for their return.

✧ St. Louis Community Release Center (SLCRC):

The St. Louis Community Release Center originated as the St. Mary's Honor Center in May 1978. Originally, this facility housed male offenders with the emphasis on work release. In 1982, the facility expanded to house women as well. The facility has a capacity of 450, with 50 beds being allocated for women. In March 1996, SLCRC was moved to a new building and the start of a new direction for the Community Release Centers. This facility provides a work release and substance abuse track. The maximum stay is 120 days but an offender can be granted an early release at a minimum of 60 days based upon her compliance with rules, program participation, and grasp and practice of treatment concepts.

St. Louis Community Release Center
1621 North 1st Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 877-0300
Superintendent: Janet Schneider

The substance abuse treatment program at SLCRC is contracted through the Gateway Foundation. The treatment program provides an effective means of successful corrections-based chemical dependency treatment, where members of the program include clients, treatment staff, and correctional staff. The structure and activities of the outpatient treatment model enables the participants to acquire new skills, attitudes and behaviors, and then to practice them in an environment that is supportive. The clients develop positive, recovery oriented pro-social skills and behavior through skill-building experiences. This too is a three level program with these services provided:

Level I:

- ✧ Engage client in treatment and recovery process
- ✧ Identify the issues related to substance abuse and criminal activity
- ✧ Establish an appropriate treatment plan after a comprehensive assessment
- ✧ Confront the abuse and the relationship to criminality
- ✧ Begin strategy development and tools for change, including cognitive self-change techniques
- ✧ Begin involvement in pro-social, drug-free, and crime free activity, including self-help involvement

Level II:

- ✧ Stability in recovery begins
- ✧ Make realistic plans for avoiding relapse and building a crime-free life
- ✧ Develop effective coping strategies
- ✧ Continue to develop tools and strategies for sobriety

Level III:

- ✧ Continue support from treatment center
- ✧ Assist other clients in the treatment process
- ✧ Talk regarding detachment from difficult situations
- ✧ Provide and receive feedback
- ✧ Become responsible and predictable
- ✧ Begin to look realistically into the future

The services provided at SLCRC also include group counseling, group education, individual counseling, and counseling with family/significant others.

The Work Release Program is geared to facilitate the re-entry of adult offenders into the community. The facilities proximity to workforce industry, business, and public transportation in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area provides a variety of opportunities for viable employment. While in this program, offenders may earn such privileges as recreation and weekend passes. This pass time affords the offenders the opportunity to re-establish or maintain family and friend relationships.

Offenders may also obtain employment in-house; working the warehouse, laundry, maintenance, custody or food service as an alternative to employment in the community. This provides offenders with experience and training which will be valuable in gaining employment in the community.

SLCRC has a third program in addition to work release and treatment. The Detainee Program houses technical parole violators in the Temporary Administrative Segregation Unit. The offenders are housed in this unit until the Parole Board makes a decision regarding their case. This is an alternative to returning them to prison prior to a Parole Board review.

C. Residential Facilities

There are three Residential Facilities contracted through the Department of Corrections. These facilities are utilized for women who do not have a suitable home plan upon release from prison or those that may become homeless during their period of supervision. While residing at the facility, the women must obtain employment and a weekly schedule is shared with a case manager assigned to the offender. In addition, a plan is devised to assist in establishing and meeting short and long term goals. The length of stay at these facilities range from 45 to 120 days.

Kansas City Community Center (KCCC)

1514 Campbell, Kansas City, MO 64108

KCCC offers 19 years experience in the provision of residential, case management, in-prison, and outpatient services to substance abusers and criminal justice clients. The organization is well-established, reputable, and committed to meeting the highest expectations of clients and other stakeholders.

Since their first contract in 1982, KCCC has grown gradually and systematically. There are currently 15 female beds at KCCC.

KCCC has introduced and implemented a wide variety of model offender treatment programs that reflect the most current and effective strategies:

- ✧ In-prison and therapeutic community services for women clients
- ✧ In-prison substance abuse education and treatment services for offenders
- ✧ Residential Halfway House, outpatient and case management services for women offenders under community supervision
- ✧ Social detoxification, primary recovery, residential treatment, transitional living and outpatient treatment services for offenders and medically indigent populations for women

Metropolitan Employment and Rehabilitation Services (MERS)

1727 Locust, St. Louis, MO 63103

MERS, has 25 beds for women and is designed to service all felony offenders with diverse treatment needs. Thought emphasis is placed on relapse prevention and life skills management. Assessment of the offender's needs, development of referral/treatment plan, job development, community release, and aftercare are components of the residential program. Identified needs may then be addressed through community based programming. Offenders are required to pay a portion of earnings toward the Offender Revolving Fund to defray the cost of the program. Additionally, a portion of earnings is required to be put in savings.

- ✧ Offenders who are serving sentences within the Missouri Department of Corrections may be placed in MERS upon their established release dates for up to 90 days.
- ✧ Offenders should have demonstrated a need to be supervised in a structured residential environment, have no viable home plan, or a need for treatment.
- ✧ Offenders under conditional release, parole, or probation status may be eligible for placement in MERS.
- ✧ Offenders with serious health or severe mental health problems may be excluded from placement in MERS.

Reality House

1900 Prathersville, Columbia, Missouri 63102

Reality House is a residential facility in Central Missouri which has six beds for women. Reality House was a facility for men until 2002 when they began accepting women into their program. This program is approximately 45 to 90 days in length. There is a counselor available 24 hours per day on site who assists in developing a release plan with the offender. A Probation and Parole Officer is assigned to this facility to assist with the adjustment to the community. The focus of this program is to assist the offender in gaining stability, obtaining identification, securing a home and employment and maintaining or establishing family contact. The offender must obtain employment within 15 days of arrival and is expected to pay fees to the facility for their stay. Staff encourage the offender to utilize community resources

for specific needs or issues that are identified. Once the offender has a suitable home plan and gainful employment, they will be discharged from the program and are expected to continue under supervision in the community.

In addition, Reality House provides education in workplace readiness, life skills, GED, anger and stress management, addiction and relapse prevention, personal change, problem solving, relationship skills, 12 step programs and communication skills. There are also weekly spiritual services available.

D. Community Resources

When a woman is being supervised by the Board of Probation and Parole, in any given community, the Probation and Parole Officer will utilize community resources as a primary means to address issues or needs that may be identified. Each district office is familiar with the community services available and works to ensure the offender is referred when necessary. The role of the Probation and Parole Officer is to promote public safety by helping offenders establish productive, successful lives through the community-based supervision process.

This process is facilitated by providing structure and accountability, and effectively balances treatment and intervention strategies necessary to manage offender risk while addressing the needs. In order to be successful in this process, assessment of offenders risk/need issues occurs, effective supervision and treatment plans are developed and appropriate sanctions and strategies are used to minimize risk and maximize the potential for successful outcomes. Through active involvement, a cooperative approach, and an effective communication/intervention process, the officer holds the offender accountable to the conditions of supervision and teaches the concepts of choice, responsibility and consequences.

To increase the level of resources available for women offenders, as they seek to address identified areas of need, Probation and Parole Officers facilitate, coordinate, and/or deliver specialized programming and supervision services. The programming currently available that women offenders may participate in includes:

- ✧ Aggressive Offender/Family Violence Program
- ✧ Alternatives to Aggressive Behavior
- ✧ Anger Management Program
- ✧ Citizen Advisory Board
- ✧ Cognitive Restructuring Programming/Thinking for a Change
- ✧ Day Report
- ✧ Domestic Violence Intervention
- ✧ Drug Court
- ✧ DWI Specialized Caseload/Programming
- ✧ Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP)
- ✧ Financial/Money Management Course
- ✧ GED/Adult Basic Education Classes
- ✧ Impact of Crime Victim Classes

- ✧ Intake Group
- ✧ Intensive Substance Abuse Treatment Group
- ✧ Intensive Supervision
- ✧ Job Readiness Training Program
- ✧ Job Skills Workshop
- ✧ Local Sentencing Initiative
 - Community Outpatient Treatment Program
 - Community Shock Incarceration Program
 - CPAR-Community Partnership for Restoration
 - Opportunity to Succeed Program
 - TREND (High need offender programming)
- ✧ MoSOP – Sex Offender Treatment Program
- ✧ Post Confinement Drug Court
- ✧ Prison Tour/Over the Walls Program
- ✧ Real Experiences in Prison
- ✧ Reparation Board
- ✧ Victim Empathy Group
- ✧ Victim Impact Panel
- ✧ Weed and Seed Partnership

To strengthen gender responsiveness while under supervision, a pilot project in six district offices is underway to implement gender specific caseloads. A Probation and Parole Officer will be trained on the needs and differences when supervising women and become familiar with community releases to assist in a successful period of supervision. This officer will supervise only women and will be part of a networking system to share ideas, problems and solutions to enhance our community supervision of women.

Alt – Care Substance Abuse Services

For women being released from the Institutional Treatment Center at WERDCC and those women in need of outpatient substance abuse services, the Department of Corrections has contracted with New Beginnings Alt-Care (St. Louis) and North Star Alt-Care (Kansas City). The Alt-Care programs are intensive outpatient chemical dependency treatment programs that are gender sensitive in nature and are offered to women in need of substance abuse programs.

✧ New Beginnings Alt-Care
3901 Union Blvd., Suite 101
St. Louis, Missouri 63115

This program opened in April 1996. The program goals are to: 1) arrest the use of addictive substances, 2) assist clients and families in developing individual recovery plans, 3) to educate the client, family and community at large about the disease and its effects, and 4) to assist in developing positive coping skills to maintain sobriety and function in a healthy manner within society.

There are three levels of treatment which include group counseling, multi-family and family counseling, individual counseling, spiritual counseling, focus groups, 12-step meetings, co-dependency, community support, day treatment, clinical assessment, and relapse prevention.

In addition, transportation and child-care services are offered. Supportive housing is also available to those in need of a place to reside. Alt-Care works closely with the Probation and Parole Office relative to referrals and assessments while woman is under supervision.

✧ North Star Alt-Care
Trinity North Bldg.
2801 Wyandotte
Kansas City, Missouri 64108

North Star is a gender-specific treatment program for women who are involved in the Missouri Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole, Drug Diversion, or Kansas City Community Center. Treatment enables women to address issues that impede healthy living, such as guilt, oppression, co-dependency, abuse and low self-esteem. Services are offered to assist the client in dealing with anger management, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and stress management issues. This facility also works with women who have chronic physical disabilities and co-existing mental health disorders. In addition, there are child-care, parenting, and on-site child development programs to work with children from birth to age twelve.

There are three levels of treatment which include an evaluation and assessment, day treatment, all levels of outpatient care, relapse prevention, aftercare, family therapy, co-dependency counseling, child-care, transportation, crisis intervention and GED/nutrition/parenting

classes. This program is designed specifically to work in conjunction with Probation and Parole in a team approach environment.

VIII. Accomplishments Fiscal Year 2001

- ✧ Establishment of the Women's Program Manager in the Missouri Department of Corrections.
- ✧ Establishment of the Women Offender Committee.
- ✧ Establishment of an Agency Plan to set goals and strategies pertaining to women in the Missouri Department of Corrections.
- ✧ Implementation of a program at WERDCC involving partnerships with the Division of Family Services and Mothers and Children Together. This program will educate women on the legal aspects of maintaining or gaining parental rights.
- ✧ Partnership with the United States Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, to assist women when released from incarceration to have gainful employment.
- ✧ Partnership with the Department of Health to identify areas of need regarding incarcerated women's health and family planning.
- ✧ Gender-specific caseloads while under supervision of the Board of Probation and Parole. A pilot project in six district offices will begin wherein a Probation and Parole Officer specialized in women's needs and differences will supervise a caseload of women.
- ✧ Focus groups in process at CCC and WERDCC identify current issues prior to incarceration within the women's institutions and those issues they may face once released. A team approach is being utilized and is led by the Women's Program Manager.
- ✧ Review of current training curriculum to ensure the Department is providing training that reflects the differences and the most effective way to manage women offenders only.
- ✧ The National Institute of Corrections has been asked to assist the Department of Corrections in reviewing the current practices for women under supervision and to enhance our current training on communication styles.

- ✧ Sexual Misconduct Brochures are being completed for women under supervision and those incarcerated. These brochures will educate women on the definitions of sexual misconduct and the importance of correctly identifying and reporting inappropriate behavior.
- ✧ Collaboration with Mothers and Children Together to develop a plan regarding children with incarcerated mothers. The Department of Corrections is currently part of this planning team and recognizes the great impact on these children. A NIC grant was awarded to this planning team to address the needs of these children.
- ✧ The Female Re-entry Program was designed to provide successful job placement, training and retention services as well as additional wrap-around services to women being released from WERDCC to the St. Louis Metropolitan area. A thorough assessment of needs will be completed while incarcerated in order to ensure a smooth transition into society for this target group of women.